

Evening Telegraph

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 1871.

SENATORIAL CONTESTS—REPUBLICAN INTEGRITY.

We attach no credit to the rumors which have been rife here and in Harrisburg for some days, that Messrs. Lyndall and Thomas mean to contest the seats of Messrs. Dechart and Nagle in the Senate. It is possible that a few petty politicians, who think that any means are justifiable to attain political success, however much the moral sense of the community may be shocked thereby, may have contemplated, or still contemplate, such acts of folly, but they cannot persist in their attempt to commit the Republican party to such a wrong without arousing a degree of popular indignation that must make the movement end in defeat and disgrace.

This journal faithfully and earnestly supported the election of Mr. Thomas and Mr. Lyndall. They were fairly nominated, and deserved success; but both were defeated, and by majorities too large to make contests even plausible. Indeed, until after the defeat of Mr. Lyndall no serious thought of contesting Mr. Nagle's seat was entertained by the friends of Mr. Thomas; and had not the political control of the Senate passed into the hands of our opponents by their recent success in the First district, we should not now hear of any such purpose. It is palpably an afterthought—a desperate political expedient that no honest friend of the Republican party could suggest, and which all honest men of all parties will reprobate.

In the case of Mr. Lyndall, there were doubtless Democratic frauds, for they are an inseparable incident to a Fourth ward election; but it is not questioned by all intelligent and fair men that a clear majority of the legal votes cast in the district was given for Colonel Dechart. Several thousand Republicans failed to vote, when they had a most unexceptionable candidate and the issue of the political control of the Senate directly involved. Why it was so it is needless here to explain, but so it was; and we must accept the decision, or load the Republican party with a degree of obliquity that will be tenfold worse than the loss of the Senate.

We need not remind those who would plunge the Republican party into proceedings little less than revolutionary, that questionable contests for places in defiance of the declared result at the ballot-box are a stretch in the nostrils of all just men; and it is only too true that, in the desperate struggles growing out of the late war, more of it was done successfully by the Republican party than is creditable. In the conflicts which involved the national life, it was at times assumed that political power was a supreme necessity, and the people tolerated what they could not commend; but the great body of the people can now have no sympathy with the efforts of candidates to gain positions in defiance of popular elections, through trickery or the party lash. The time is past, too, when Republican committees of the Senate or House will defeat the vote of the people because they may happen to have the power to do so; and we hazard little in saying that, should these contests proceed and committees unanimous in Republican faith could be secured, Messrs. Dechart and Nagle would be awarded their seats, as the conviction is general that they are honestly entitled to them. Can any man doubt that such Senators as Brooke, Evans, Olmstead, Billingfield, White, Graham, and others we might name, would so stultify themselves as to give places to men who are declared defeated by 800 and 1300, unless the most incontestable proof could be produced that on one side all was fraud and on the other side all was honesty? If there are any who place so low an estimate upon the integrity of Republican Senators, they cannot too soon learn that their hopes are libels upon the best men of the State. Not a single Republican journal of the city has ventured to suggest or sanction such contests, and none of them will do so. With one accord the Republican press of this city has demanded that the party shall deserve success by honest actions, judicious leadership, and acceptable candidates; but when their counsels are disregarded, and the party sacrifices itself by indifference or faction, the consequences must be accepted, and true Republicans will profit by defeat, rather than resort to desperate and unjustifiable measures which must render future success hopeless.

We have lost the Senate by criminal distractions within our own ranks, and the loss cannot be repaired by violence to law and justice. In this we feel persuaded that Messrs. Lyndall and Thomas will concur. Mr. Thomas did not contemplate a contest one week ago, and he cannot contemplate it now, for it is not pretended that frauds have been recently developed in his district. Mr. Lyndall has, since his defeat, been elected to an important position by the Republican Councils, and he certainly does not approve of any attempt to put him into an office to which his competitor was elected. Others who care more for temporary and petty power than for popular confidence in the integrity of the Republican party may seek to force Messrs. Lyndall and Thomas into false positions, but they will certainly repudiate the whole scheme, and thus preserve the honor they had to console them in defeat.

Let the Republican party turn its attention to uniting its discordant elements, and henceforth elect its candidates rather than add dishonor to defeat by attempting a lawless disregard of the popular will as expressed through the ballot-box.

THE PAID FIRE DEPARTMENT. Mayor Fox can well afford to disregard the abuse that has been and that will be launched against him on account of his having signed the ordinance creating the paid Fire Department, for he not only did his duty as a public officer, but he aided in bringing about a great reform in which citizens of all classes and of all shades of political opinion are

interested. The creation of a paid Fire Department is not a political measure, and it cannot in any way be made a question of party politics, and the Mayor would not have had even the poor excuse of partisan expediency to offer if he had refused to sign the bill. There were no legal or constitutional objections to the ordinance passed by Councils, and no one knew better than the Mayor that the volunteer system had become an unmitigated nuisance that every consideration of public interest demanded should be done away with. He, therefore, in resisting the pressure brought to bear upon him by the adherents of the volunteer fire companies, only did what every good and law-abiding citizen had a right to expect of him. Mayor Fox, however, is none the less entitled to great credit in refusing to listen either to the threats of ruffians, whose actions have done so much towards making a paid Fire Department necessary, or to the temptations of those who promised political support if he would prove recreant to the duties of his office.

If any further arguments than those already offered were needed to prove the necessity for the total abolition of the volunteer Fire Department, the conduct of the firemen on Saturday night and yesterday would furnish them in abundance. Incurable fires and disgraceful rioting celebrated the birth of the new year and the death of the volunteer Fire Department that has been the glory and shame of Philadelphia, but during recent years entirely too much the latter. The occurrences of the last two days prove the necessity for the complete organization of the paid Fire Department as early a day as possible. The Board of Commissioners will meet to-morrow, and we sincerely hope that measures will be adopted for getting the new system into active operation immediately, and in the meantime the Mayor and other officers of the law should exert themselves to prevent any further exhibitions of outlawry and to bring to punishment the ring-leaders in the outrages that have already occurred.

It is idle for such philanthropists as Mr. Welsh, of this city, to devote their time and labor to improve the condition of the Indians while the President appoints such men as Mr. Percy B. Spear as agents. Just when Mr. Welsh was agitating the country by an expose of the monstrous frauds practised upon the Indians by agents, a notorious political hummer and a adventurer is announced as assigned by the administration to an important agency. While President Johnson was trading in his offices with Cameron and like political jobbers, this same Percy B. Spear was announced as Collector of Revenue for the Chester and Delaware district—put through by a bargain between Johnson and Cameron. The Senate confirmed him before the fraud was known by Senators, but as soon as the people of the district learned of the appointment they protested as with one voice, and Senator Sherman moved a reconsideration of the confirmation and thus sent Mr. Spear into retirement. Cameron then forced Spear into the New York Custom House, where his official record was anything but creditable; and if he has done anything to commend him to public favor, there is very general ignorance of the fact. Now Cameron has doubtless defrauded Grant into the appointment of Spear as an Indian agent, and if he is allowed to act, and disburse moneys and goods to the sons of the forest, there will be good times in spots out in the Indian country. We commend this matter to our philanthropic citizen, Mr. Welsh, and suggest that he frankly advise the President who and what Mr. Spear is, and he could profitably read to Grant General Hitchcock's famous report of Cameron's early philanthropic efforts to civilize the Winnebagoes and teach them how not to spend their money. Under his financial tuition they became the most economical set of Indians to be found in all out of doors.

It is reported that after months of preparation and postponements the German forces investing Paris are at last ready to commence a bombardment, on a terrific scale, of the French capital. A few shells have already been thrown into the doomed city, and her inhabitants, after undergoing the manifold sufferings inseparable from a long siege, are threatened with a feast of still more terrible horrors. Hopes of rescue and relief through the aid of the mighty France that once bid defiance to the world have proved fallacious, and the most fearful massacre in the history of the human race is impending. At this juncture Victor Hugo might call not merely outcasts and unfortunates, but the whole population of Paris, *Les Miserables*.

OBITUARY.

Don Juan Prim. A cable despatch announces that Don Juan Prim, Count de Reus and Marquis de los Castellanos, died on Saturday night about 11 o'clock, of wounds received on Wednesday night at the hands of an assassin. This distinguished man, who has played such an important part in the history of Spain, was born at Reus on the 6th of December, 1814. He first came into notice during the Christina and Carlist wars, and in the civil commotions that followed the accession of Isabella II. to the throne in 1833 he distinguished himself by his devotion to the cause of the Regent, Maria Christina, and in 1837 was promoted to the rank of colonel. In 1841 he was ordered to be arrested for participating in an insurrection at Saragossa against the dictatorship of Espartero; but he managed to escape to France, where he remained until 1844, when he was elected a deputy to the Cortes from Barcelona. He allied himself with the party of Christina against Espartero, and was engaged in a number of revolutionary broils, until the fall of Espartero secured for him at the hands of the Regent the title of Count de Reus and the governorship of Madrid. Shortly after, a reaction commenced at Barcelona in favor of liberal principles, and General Prim was chosen on account of his popularity to undertake the task of pacifying the malcontents. He found it impossible to do so, however, without the employment of force, and he was consequently denounced by the people as a traitor. He also fell into disfavor with the Queen, and was accused of a conspiracy to overthrow the Government and to assassinate Narvaez. He was convicted of the former charge, and was sentenced to six years' imprisonment. At the end of six months he was released, at the solicitation of his mother,

and for nine years he did not take any active part in public affairs. In 1853 he entered the Turkish army to fight against Russia, and the first advantage achieved by the Turks on the Danube was mainly due to his generalship. After the revolution of 1854 he returned to Spain, and took his seat in the Cortes, where he acted with the opposition to Espartero and Orlazaga. He was re-elected to the Cortes in 1857. He commanded a division and afterwards the reserves during the Spanish-Morocco war of 1859-60, and took part in most of the battles, adding greatly to his reputation as a military commander. On his return to Spain he was made a grandee, with the title of Marquis de Castellanos.

In 1861 he commanded the Spanish expeditionary army to Mexico, but after the project for placing Maximilian on the throne was broached he assumed the responsibility of returning to Spain with his army. In August, 1863, he participated in a military conspiracy which failed, but he was not in June of the following year he was recalled, and he at once became the recognized leader of the Progressivists against Marshal O'Donnell. At the end of 1865 the movement of which he was the head attained great magnitude, his ostensible programme being the union of Spain and Portugal and the destruction of the Bourbon dynasty. In 1866 an insurrection occurred, and many regiments declared for Prim. This outbreak was suppressed, however, and Prim was obliged to fly to London. In September, 1868, he made his reappearance in Spain, and commenced new negotiations, which, however, amounted to nothing. He was one of the prime movers in the great revolution of September, 1868, which secured the downfall of Isabella II, and since then he has been the actual if not the nominal arbiter of the affairs of Spain. A short time ago, in a sketch of the newly elected King of Spain, the Duke of Aosta, we gave a very complete account of Prim's connection with the affairs of Spain since the revolution of 1868, and it is only necessary to repeat here that he was the active brain of the Provisional Government. The Primist intrigues were of any benefit to Spain may well be disputed, but he was undoubtedly the ablest among the Spanish statesmen of the day; and in the peculiarly disorganized state of the country his sudden death may well be considered as a public calamity, and as it occurred by the hand of an adherent of the republican cause, it cannot fail to inflict irreparable damage on the republican party and to render it less likely than ever that it will succeed in gaining power. Like all political assassinations, the murder of General Prim was more than a crime, it was a blunder, and his sudden death leaves the future of Spain more dark and uncertain than ever.

Messrs. JAY COOKE, McCULLOUGH & CO. have opened their banking house in London, which will offer many conveniences to American merchants and citizens who may be travelling in Europe, or who may have business relations on the other side of the Atlantic. This banking house is a branch of the establishments of Messrs. Jay Cooke & Co., in Philadelphia, New York, and Washington, and it will be under the immediate superintendence of Hon. Hugh McCulloch, late Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. McCulloch's financial abilities are so well known that under his able management the success of the new banking house may be considered as assured from the start.

NOTICES. PROTECTION TO BUYERS OF CLOTHING. BENNETT & CO., TOWER HALL, NO. 103 MARK LANE, HALF-WAY BETWEEN FIFTH AND SIXTH STS., WILL SELL LOWER THAN ANY OTHER HOUSE. OR WILL REFUND THE MONEY AND TAKE BACK THE GOODS IF DISSATISFIED. CALL AND SEE BEFORE PURCHASING. WHITMAN'S JUDEA.—For slingers and public speakers, to keep the throat moist and voice clear, it is excellent. 25 cents per box. Druggists sell it. STEPHEN F. WHITMAN & SON, Sole Manufacturers, S. W. corner of Twelfth and Market streets.

COPARTNERSHIPS. LIMITED PARTNERSHIP.—WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, have this day entered into a Limited Partnership, agreeable to the provisions of the act of Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania, passed the 21st day of March, A. D. 1856, entitled "An act relating to limited partnerships," and its supplements, and do hereby certify:— 1. That the name of the firm under which such partnership shall be conducted is DUNCAN & POEY. 2. That the general nature of the business intended to be transacted is the General Shipping and Commission business. 3. That the names of the General Partners of said firm are JACOB M. DUNCAN, residing No. 137 PRICE STREET, Germantown, and SIMON POEY, residing No. 1817 GREEN STREET, and the name of the Special Partner is M. E. McDOWELL, residing No. 1461 MOUNT VERNON STREET, all in the city of Philadelphia. 4. That the aggregate amount of capital contributed by the special partner to the common stock is Fifty Thousand Dollars. 5. That the period at which the partnership is to commence is the second day of January, A. D. 1871, and the period at which it will terminate is the second day of January, A. D. 1874. J. M. DUNCAN, SIMON POEY, General Partners. Office No. 418 S. DELAWARE AVENUE. M. E. McDOWELL, Special Partner. 12 21

SIMON POEY CEASES TO BE A MEMBER OF OUR FIRM FROM THIS DATE THE FIRMS OF JAY COOKE & CO., Philadelphia, Washington, and New York, will be composed of the following partners:— JAY COOKE, WILLIAM G. MOORHEAD, HENRY HENTZ, JAMES FAHNESTOCK, PITT COOKE, GEORGE C. THOMAS, JAMES A. GARRAND, JAY COOKE, JR. Philadelphia, Jan. 2, 1871. 12 10T

COPARTNERSHIP IS THIS DAY FORMED between the undersigned, who propose to carry on a GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS, at Nos. 51 and 53 South THIRD STREET, in this city, under the style of DUNN BROTHERS. J. H. DUNN, R. M. DUNN. 12

NOTICE.—THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing between J. HENRY HENTZ, WILLIAM HENTZ, and J. P. ROBINETT, under the firm of WHITE, HENTZ & CO., terminates this day by limitation. The business of the copartnership will be settled up by the undersigned, J. HENRY HENTZ, No. 222 North SECON D STREET, Philadelphia, Dec. 31, 1870. J. HENRY HENTZ continues the business under the style of WHITE, HENTZ & CO., at the old stand, No. 222 North SECON D STREET, and associates with him J. P. ROBINETT. Philadelphia, Jan. 1, 1871. 12 30

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICE.—THE UNDERSIGNED entered into a Copartnership on the 15th inst. for a General Auction and Commission business, under the name and style of HENRY W. & B. SCOTT, JR. HERBY W. SCOTT, B. SCOTT, JR. Philadelphia, Dec. 31, 1870. 12 24

NOTICE.—HAVING RELINQUISHED THE sole and separate interest of MR. D. W. C. MOORE in that department of our business ceases from this date. COFFIN & ALTAFF. Philadelphia, Dec. 31, 1870. 12 21 31

FOURTH EDITION

NEWS FROM THE CAPITAL.

Army Reduction.

The Fire at Mifflin, Pa.

The Town Half Destroyed.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Army Reduction Board. WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The board of officers in session at the War Department, and of which General Hancock is President, after an informal meeting on Tuesday, will adjourn sine die. The board has considered the cases of 63 officers, of this number 30 have been permitted to resign before their cases had been concluded by the board, and five cases remained uncompleted at the adjournment, for lack of evidence. Of the 63 cases fully considered, a small majority were reported upon unfavorably. The officers condemned by the board, from the decision of which, under the law, there is no appeal, have been immediately discharged. The other cases, with but few exceptions, have been ordered to their homes to await orders. The most important case receiving an unfavorable report of the board is that of Colonel John P. Sherburne, Assistant Adjutant-General of the War Department. Colonel Sherburne is the only officer appointed to the Adjutant-General's Department directly from the volunteer service. He came to Washington in command of Scott's Nine Hundred Cavalry, an organization formed in the State of New York, and was for a considerable time during the war a member of the staff of General Martindale, Military Commander of the District. From Washington he went with his regiment to New Orleans, and was there commissioned in the Adjutant-General's Department, and he has also been on duty on the Pacific coast. His offense is understood to consist of private immoderations of slight importance. It is understood that, especially in this case, Congressional action will be asked to reverse the decision of the board.

The officers discharged by the board are treated in every instance as are the officers whose commissions in the army expire to-day for want of assignment, and all receive a year's pay with which to begin civil life. There is, however, great dissatisfaction expressed regarding the action of the board in certain cases, where friends of politicians have been interfered with, and several members and Senators promise to present bills setting aside the action of the board in every case, and providing some other means for reducing the number of officers in the army.

THE MIFFLIN FIRE. Sixty-one Buildings Destroyed—Promptitude of the Pennsylvania Central Railroad. The Harrisburg Patriot of this morning says: The most destructive fire that has ever visited central Pennsylvania occurred on Saturday night, December 31, in the town of Mifflin, Juniata county. About half past 7 o'clock in the evening the flames were first discovered in the building known as the "Crystal Palace," the corner of Bridge and Water streets, and before any aid could be rendered for the extinguishment of the "Crystal Palace," the fire communicated to the adjoining buildings on the south side of Bridge street, and, with the exception of three dwelling houses, consumed the entire northern portion of the town, consisting of thirty-one dwellings, stores, and offices.

The only fire apparatus in the town was an ancient fire hand-engine, which, when attempted to be used, proved an entire failure. Seeing the dire condition of affairs, the authorities telegraphed to the officers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for aid. This request was promptly complied with. The first assistance of the railroad company was the sending of the Hope Fire Company, of Lewisburg, distance twelve miles from Mifflin, to the scene of the conflagration.

THE BUILDINGS DESTROYED. The building known as the Crystal Palace was a four-story structure, situated on the corner of Bridge and Water streets, and immediately on the banks of the canal. Adjoining, in the same building, was the hardware firm of Wearner & Co., with a very extensive stock of hardware. Everything in their store was totally destroyed. The third story was occupied by Iroquois Tribe, No. 42, E. O. M. L. Lodge of Odd Fellows, and Patterson & Co., of E. O. M. L. The Patterson Council were in session when the fire broke out, and were compelled to leave their room and take refuge in the building above. The records or anything belonging to the council, Iroquois Tribe of Odd Fellows had one of the finest collections of rare and wild animals and birds in the country, all of which were totally destroyed by the fire.

The Odd Fellows' Hall, a very fine brick building a few doors above the Crystal Palace, was occupied on the first and second floors by Mr. Tilton Espanchade as a dry goods store. His store was filled with a large stock of goods, and was almost totally destroyed. The third story of this building was occupied by Minnott's Lodge, I. O. O. F. The lodge owned the building and lost all belonging to them in it. Adjoining this building was the billiard saloon and restaurant of John Hallabach, occupying the basement and floor above. His billiard tables and other valuables were totally destroyed. The printing office building of Messrs. Bonaal & Jackson, of the Democrat and Register, was totally destroyed. They saved a few of their locked-up forms and a lot of tied-up type. Their books and files were also saved.

We can only hope, with all their loss, that the Democrat and Register will rise, Phoenix like, and spread its effulgent rays with a brilliancy that no conflagration can extinguish. Both the proprietors of this paper were burned out of their private residences. The Union Hotel, Simon Albright, proprietor, was totally consumed. It stood on the corner of Bridge and Main streets. Opposite was the Mifflin Bank building, a three-story brick structure, and to prevent its taking fire the efforts of the people were directed. Through great exertions it was saved, and consequently the northern end of the town was saved, as it was acknowledged if this portion would have taken fire there would have been almost a total loss of preventing the balance of the town being destroyed.

Among the private residences burned were that of Mr. E. D. Doty, lawyer; S. E. Parker, cashier of Doty, Parker & Co.'s bank; Robert C. Gallagher, occupying the late residence of John J. Patterson, Esq.; John J. Wright, J. R. Starnugh, Noah Edger, and Sheriff Detrick. These properties were fine private buildings, and with the exception of the most valuable movables were all destroyed.

DRY GOODS. H. STEEL & SON, Nos. 713 and 715 N. TENTH Street, Preparatory to making alterations, WILL CLOSE OUT THEIR ENTIRE STOCK OF Silks, Velvets, Shawls, and Dress Goods, AT REDUCED PRICES. Great Bargains Will be offered, as our stock MUST BE SOLD To make room for the workmen. Also, a large stock of Domestic, Muslins, the Best Makes, Prints and Canton Flannels, At Reduced Prices.

SEWING MACHINES. THE WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE. For Sale on Easy Terms. NO. 914 CHESTNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA. CLOTHING.

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Therefore we invite you to come and take it away For New Year's presents To your friends, As well as For your own use.

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HOLIDAY GOODS. Spring Horses, Rocking Horses, Children's Carriages, BOYS' SLEDS, WAGONS, VELOCIPEDES, Etc. Etc. H. J. SHILL, Factory, No. 226 DOCK Street, 12 9 4p BELOW EXCHANGE.

Opticians. SPECTACLES. Microscopes, Telescopes, Thermometers, Mathematical, Surveying, Philosophical and Drawing Instruments, at reduced prices. JAMES W. QUEEN & CO., No. 224 CHESTNUT Street, PHILADELPHIA. 12 30 m/64p

FINANCIAL. JAY COOKE, McCULLOUGH & CO., No. 41 LOMBARD Street, LONDON, ENGLAND.

In connection with our houses in New York and Washington, we have opened a Branch in London, under the above name, with Hon. Hugh McCulloch, Late Secretary of the Treasury, J. H. PULSTON, of New York, and FRANK H. EVANS, of London, as Resident Partners, and are now prepared to transact a General Foreign Exchange Business INCLUDING PURCHASE AND SALE OF STERLING BILLS, And the Issue of COMMERCIAL CREDITS AND TRAVELLERS CIRCULAR LETTERS. The latter available in any part of the world. The above extension of our business enables us to receive Gold on Deposit, And to allow 4 per cent. thereon.

JAY COOKE & CO., BANKERS, PHILADELPHIA, WASHINGTON, AND NEW YORK. (12 10c) WE OFFER FOR SALE, AT PAR, THE NEW MASONIC TEMPLE LOAN, Bearing 7 3-10 interest, Redeemable after five (5) and within twenty-one (21) years. Interest Payable March and September. The Bonds are registered, and will be issued in sums to suit.

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